review of on-going projects in DRDO is a continuous activity. A comprehensive review of projects was carried out in mid 1989 to close down projects where objectives have been achieved and also to identify projects for closure where objectives have been significantly achieved but further continuance of activities would not result into incremental cost-effective gains. The closure of such R&D projects would result in considerable saving of funds for reallocation to priority projects in the principal thrust areas. It will not be in public interest to disclose the details regarding the classified projects reviewed for closure.

Seventh Five Year Plan for Defence

900. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when the Seventh Five Year Plan for Defence was finally approved; and

(b) whether there was any delay regarding its approval; if so, what were the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan for Defence was approved in August, 1988.

(b) Formal approval of the Seventh Five Year Plan for Defence involved consideration of complex issues, reassessment of the threat scenario, allocating resources including foreign exchange to the Services, Defence Research & Development and for Defence Production Units. These considerations took more time than assessed earlier.

Setting up of India up-date Centre as part of Jawahar Lal Nehru Centenary Celebrations

901. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the previous Government had decided to set up India update Information Centre as a part of the Jawahar Lal Nehru Centenary celebrations; and

(b) if so, what further action has been taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Abandoning of Ganga Action Plan

902. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to abandon the Ganga Action Plan;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, what further action has been taken to clean the River Ganga?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are 262 schemes under the present phase of the Ganga Action Plan, sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 278.62 crores, for the three States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal, of which 99 have been completed. Work is in progress on the other schemes which are likely to be completed in the first three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan.